STATE OF NEW YORK LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY BUFFALO, NY, JANUARY 1-31, 2023

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Honoring National Blood Donor Month January 2023

WHEREAS, *National Blood Donor Month* has been celebrated each January for nearly 50 years and coincides with one of the most difficult times to maintain a sufficient blood supply for patients; and

WHEREAS, during this critical time of year, the Red Cross depends on donors to continue to supply these resources in order to make sure that blood products are available at about 2,500 hospitals nationwide; and

WHEREAS, blood shortages have become a national epidemic with communities throughout the U.S. experiencing these shortages more frequently and for prolonged periods of time; and

WHEREAS, one blood donation has the potential to help save lives of up to three patients, underscoring the importance of constantly replenishing our blood supply through donations and community awareness; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the importance of blood donation to the health and well-being of patients in hospitals and medical centers across our state; and

WHEREAS, the difference in potentially saving a life by making blood donation a habit this January and committing to donating blood each year, will significantly improve Erie County's blood bank.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body hereby proclaims January 2023 as *National Blood Donor Month* and encourage all residents to understand the importance of supporting local blood drives and blood donation efforts this month and throughout the new year.

Hon. Howard J. Johnson Jr. Erie County Legislator, 1st District Robert M. Graber
Clerk of the Erie County Legislature